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Agency Secretary

Air Resources Board

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

December 2, 2005

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

SUBJECT: 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR DRAFT SITING AND LOCATION
CRITERIA FOR THREE HYDROGEN DEMONSTRATION STATIONS

Attached is the "Draft siting and location criteria" for the three hydrogen demonstration fueling stations that will be co-funded by Senate Bill (SB) 76. This letter is to solicit your comments on these criteria. Comments are due by January 5, 2006.

On July 21, 2005, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed SB 76 that provided the necessary funding and legislative guidelines to implement recommendations of the California Hydrogen Highway Network (CA H2 Net) Blueprint Plan. SB 76 is a budget trailer bill that provides \$6.5 million in funding for state-sponsored hydrogen demonstration projects until January 1, 2007. The funds may be used for co-funding the establishment of up to three hydrogen fueling station demonstration projects and the State lease and purchase of a variety of hydrogen fueled vehicles.

Per the language in SB 76, projects and vehicles must be selected through a public hearing process, including a California Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (CEJAC) meeting to solicit input on appropriate siting criteria, hydrogen station locations and production facilities in order to address environmental justice concerns. In addition, staff must hold workshops in Northern, Central and Southern California to receive public input on hydrogen production and fueling bid criteria, and siting and location criteria. Finally, there must be a 30-day public notice prior to the Air Resources Board's (ARB) adoption of project siting criteria or locations.

Between October 28, 2005 and November 3, 2005 ARB staff held five workshops in Northern, Central and Southern California. Three were held during normal business hours and two were held later in the evening. The workshops were well attended and staff received valuable input from all stakeholders. Vehicle manufacturers, vehicle conversion companies, hydrogen equipment manufacturers, energy providers, utilities, state and local government representatives, battery electric vehicle proponents and the interested public were well represented. On November 15, 2005, the California Environmental Justice Advisory Committee provided comments and approved a previous version of the draft siting and location criteria.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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Based on feedback from the workshops and the November 15, 2005 CEJAC meeting, staff prepared the attached "Draft siting and location criteria" for the three hydrogen demonstration fueling stations. These draft criteria are now available for a 30-day comment period. Any comments received during this time will be taken into consideration for the development and release of requests for proposals (RFP) for building three hydrogen demonstration fueling stations and procuring hydrogen vehicles.

For information on the CA H2 Net, please visit www.HydrogenHighway.ca.gov . This website will be updated regularly with information applicable to SB 76. If you wish to receive email notification of updates on the CA H2 Net please join the list serve at: <http://www.hydrogenhighway.ca.gov/sub2hwy.html> .

Please submit your comments on the attached "Draft siting and location criteria" to Mr. Michael Kashuba, Staff Air Pollution Specialist, at mkashuba@arb.ca.gov, or by phone at (916) 323-5123 by January 5, 2006. Also, feel free to contact Mr. Kashuba if you have any questions about the criteria or the SB 76 process.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: Mr. Michael Kashuba
Staff Air Pollution Specialist
Hydrogen Infrastructure Section

Analisa Bevan, Chief
Sustainable Transportation Technologies Branch

Attachment